

# Mariner's Compass Sampler

Learn to sew a Mariner's Compass block using a specific ruler designed by a quilter from the state of Washington! RobinRuth designs has expanded her patterns and beautiful quilts based on her rulers and techniques. Her instructions are precise and easy to understand and she backs them up with video support and tutorials. The purchase of her book is necessary for the class - [ROBINRUTHDESIGN.COM](http://ROBINRUTHDESIGN.COM) will be the best place to look for them. There are two choices to start with - fat robin or skinny robin - all the blocks shown in my quilt are skinny points. Robin's webpage has a lot of samples to look though to help with choosing colors and possible patterns. We will be using the 16 point compass pattern to get the hang of the construction - there are 32 point options with a booklet that illustrates the 32 point construction.



We will start with the construction of one block. I recommend starting with a 12" to 16" size block for ease of construction - these sizes are more likely to fit into quilts or table runners...the great big blocks are great, but they can be dominant simply by their size. We will be working with strips of fabric and variation in color and value add to the success of the blocks. I love to make things scrappy, so I would recommend a selection of compatible, pretty fabrics. I used a dominant print to tie my sampler blocks together; it is featured around the center mariner's blocks and in the setting triangles around the outer edge, so if that is preferred, start with 1 1/2 yard of a featured fabric. Quarter yard pieces of 4 fabrics for the actual compass points will be plenty, if the scrappy look is desired. If one background fabric is used for all the compasses and other blocks, 2 - 2 1/2 yards are needed. I end up using several backgrounds to keep the scrappy look throughout the top. Yardage for the scrappy blocks can be of smaller amounts, so plan on 20 different fabrics to scrap it up. More is a good thing, but only if it all fits in the car.

In addition to the ruler and book, members will need the following:

sewing machine

rotary cutter and mat

thread

needles



These are samples from a class I taught in the past.



If students select a specific pattern from Robin's website, it will have yardages necessary for that pattern. I am offering the sampler pattern with the class for free. I intend for each student to make 2 - 4 compass blocks during the 2 days of class. Of course, they can continue at their own pace and make as many as they wish.

### EXTRA!!!

I am offering to have a second class on the final day and half of Friday in addition to the compass class....if anyone is interested, I would love to add a table of Scrap Happy Log cabin students to the mix. All they need is a bag or box of scrap strips - 1" minimum and no bigger than 2 1/2" strips - we will be making "wonky" log cabins, so this is a fun, no worry attack on those every multiplying scraps we seem to have in every corner. I am attaching a photo of one version of the quilt....

